

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the final Office Action mailed on March 22, 2011. Claim 1 is amended and is supported, for example, in Figs. 1A and EA. No new matter is added. Claims 1 and 5-10 remain pending in the application.

Examiner Interview:

Applicants appreciate the courtesy shown by the Examiner and his supervisor in discussing this case with Applicant's representative, Amol Kavathekar, on May 18, 2011. During the interview, the Examiners agreed that features in revised claim 1 distinguish over the references of record. The discussions of the interview are reflected in the above amendments and the following remarks.

§103 Rejections:

Claims 1 and 5-10 are rejected as being unpatentable over Bao (U.S. Patent Publication No. 6,150,668) in view of Morita (JP No. 2003-084686) and in further view of Carcia (U.S. Publication No. 2003/0164497). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to a display apparatus that requires, among other features, that the pixel electrode is overlapped in a thickness direction with the source electrode.

The combination of Bao, Morita and Carcia does not teach or suggest these features of claim 1. The rejection relies on the LED anode 216 and the source electrode 225 of Bao as the pixel electrode and the source electrode, respectively of claim 1. However, as shown in Fig. 2 of Bao, the LED anode 216 is not overlapped by the source electrode 225.

Also, it would not be obvious to modify Bao to obtain these features of claim 1. If the LED anode 216 is overlapped in a thickness direction with the source electrode 225, the LED anode 216 must extend up to a lower part of the dielectric layer 220. However, when the LED anode 216 is allowed to extend to the lower part of the dielectric layer 220, the LED anode 216 is short-circuited with the FET gate 215, thereby preventing the LED 200 in Bao from operating. Accordingly, it is irrelevant whether Morita and Carcia teach the above features of claim 1 (a point Applicants are not conceding), as Bao would become inoperative if modified to require the above features of claim 1.

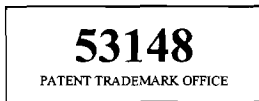
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For at least these reasons, claim 1 is not suggested by the combination of Bao, Morita and Carcia and should be allowed. Claims 5-10 depend from claim 1 and should be allowed for at least the same reasons.

Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully assert that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If a telephone conference would be helpful in resolving any issues concerning this communication, please contact Applicants' primary attorney-of record, Douglas P. Mueller (Reg. No. 30,300), at (612) 455-3804.



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Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Douglas P. Mueller", written over a horizontal line.

Douglas P. Mueller
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DPM/AHK